

Appl. No. 10/021,896
Amdt. dated August 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 and 10 have been cancelled.

Claims 9, 11-22 are pending.

Please amend claims 9, 17, and 20, and enter new claims 23 and 24 as set forth in the following listing of the claims.

9. (currently amended) A display
instrument comprising

at least two illuminated pointers which are located one on top of the other, each composed of a head and a pointer lug and rotatable independently of one another about a common display axis, the illuminated pointers being composed of a light-guiding material and each having a light entry face and light injected there exiting on a side of the pointer lugs facing a viewer,

a drive unit (3), the drive unit (3) driving an upper pointer (4) of said pointers, a lower pointer (6) of said pointers being located, or moveable, between the drive unit (3) and the upper pointer (4), wherein for at least two of the illuminated pointers (4, 6) there is a common light

source, and light is fed to the illuminated pointers (4, 6) via a light splitter (10), wherein a drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer (4) serves as a light guide and a portion of the drive shaft (7) is embodied as the light splitter (10), and the light is led from the drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer (4) via the light splitter (10) to a generated surface (32) of the lower pointer (6), and

light from the light source enters a bottom portion of the drive shaft, and is conducted via the drive shaft (7) through the drive unit (3) to the light splitter (10).

Claim 10 (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 9, wherein the light splitter (10) is plugged together with a main part (8) of the drive shaft (7).

12. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 9, wherein in the light splitter (10), one portion of the light exits in a direction of an axis of rotation and a further portion exits perpendicular thereto.

13. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 12, wherein an upper of the illuminated pointers (4) has the light entry face (30) which

picks up the light exiting in the axial direction, said upper illuminated pointer (4) being plugged onto the light splitter (10).

14. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 13, wherein a lower of said illuminated pointers (6) has the light entry face which picks up laterally exiting light.

15. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 14, wherein a head (12) of the lower illuminated pointer (6) surrounds the light splitter (10) in an annular shape and the light entry face is embodied on an inner said generated surface (32) in the head (12).

16. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 9, wherein the light splitter (10) has a frustum-shaped coaxial depression (21), a generated surface (24) of frustum (23) serving as a reflection face for laterally exiting light and a base face (25) serving as an exit face for axially exiting light.

17. (currently amended) The display instrument as claimed in claim ~~11~~ 9, wherein in the light splitter (10), one portion of the light exits in a direction of .

an axis of rotation and a further portion exits perpendicular thereto.

18. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 17, wherein an upper of the illuminated pointers (4) has the light entry face (30) which picks up the light exiting in the axial direction, said upper illuminated pointer (4) being plugged onto the light splitter (10).

19. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 18, wherein a lower of said illuminated pointers (6) has the light entry face which picks up laterally exiting light.

20. (currently amended) The display instrument as claimed in claim ~~19~~ 15, wherein a head (12) of the lower illuminated pointer (6) surrounds the light splitter (10) in an annular shape and the light entry face is embodied on an inner said generated surface (32) in the head (12).

21. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 9, where the light source is positioned in axial direction of the drive shaft (7).

22. (previously presented) The display instrument as claimed in claim 21, wherein the light source is a light-emitting diode (40) which is arranged below an end of the drive shaft (7) which is remote from the light splitter (10) and injects light into the end of the drive shaft (7).

23. (new) A display instrument comprising:

at least two illuminated pointers which are located one on top of the other, each composed of a head and a pointer lug, the illuminated pointers being rotatable independently of one another about a common display axis, the pointers being composed of a light-guiding material and each having a light entry face wherein light injected at the entry face exits on a side of the pointer lugs facing a viewer;

a drive unit (3), the drive unit (3) driving an upper pointer (4) of said pointers, a lower pointer (6) of said pointers being located for movement between the drive unit (3) and the upper pointer (4), wherein for at least two of the illuminated pointers (4, 6) there is a common light source on a side of the drive unit opposite the pointers, and light is fed to the illuminated pointers (4, 6) via a light splitter (10), wherein a drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer (4) serves as a light guide and a portion of the drive shaft (7) is embodied as the light splitter (10), and the light is led from the light source via the drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer (4) through the drive unit to the light splitter (10) and via the light splitter to a generated surface (32) of the lower pointer (6); and

wherein the light splitter 10 has a frustum-shaped coaxial depression located on an axis of the drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer for directing rays of a portion of the light from the light source toward the upper pointer and further rays from a further portion of the light from the light source toward the lower pointer.

24. (new) A display instrument comprising:

at least two illuminated pointers which are located one on top of the other, each composed of a head and a pointer lug, the illuminated pointers being rotatable independently of one another about a common display axis, the pointers being composed of a light-guiding material and each having a light entry face wherein light injected at the entry face exits on a side of the pointer lugs facing a viewer;

a drive unit (3), the drive unit (3) driving an upper pointer (4) of said pointers, a lower pointer (6) of said pointers being located for movement between the drive unit (3) and the upper pointer (4), wherein for at least two of the illuminated pointers (4, 6) there is a common light source, and light is fed to the illuminated pointers (4, 6) via a light splitter (10), wherein a drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer (4) serves as a light guide and a portion of the drive shaft (7) is embodied as the light splitter (10), and the light is led from the light source via the drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer (4) to

the light splitter (10) and via the light splitter to a generated surface (32) of the lower pointer (6); and

wherein the light splitter 10 has a frustum-shaped coaxial depression located on an axis of the drive shaft (7) of the upper pointer for directing rays of a portion of the light from the light source toward the upper pointer and further rays from a further portion of the light from the light source toward the lower pointer.